

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1, 2, 4-11 and 16 have been amended to more clearly recite that which Applicants regard as their invention. Support for the changes to claim 1 can be found, inter alia, at page 2, lines 1-22 and at page 8 line 25 through page 10, line 10 of the specification. Claims 3, 12-15 and 17-23 stand withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 2, 4-11 and 16 are presented for further examination.

The objection to claims 1 and 16 and the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-11 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is believed overcome by the foregoing amendments. Specifically, as suggested by the Examiner, the term “MEMS” has been deleted from the preamble in each of the pending claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection and the rejection are respectfully requested.

The rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Wallace, US 6,271,728, and the rejection of claims 4-11 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Wallace in view of Lucas, US 6,287,951, are respectfully traversed with respect to the amended claims.

Applicants submit that the structural features of claim 1, as amended, are not disclosed or suggested by either of the cited references. Pointedly, neither Wallace, which relates to MMIC circuits, nor Lucas, which relates to a method for forming semiconductor device interconnects, teaches an array where at least some of the elements in the array are interconnected so as to make a circuit by

determining a state (on/off) of all of the switches connecting the elements, and where at least some of the elements in the array are formed on a substrate using MEMs technology.

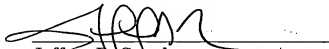
In view of the foregoing, the application is respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance, and prompt favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #101249.55749US).

Respectfully submitted,

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